**Supporting Information for** 

# Stabilization of the nematic mesophase by a homogeneously dissolved conjugated polymer

Andreas Lohr and Timothy M. Swager\*

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Chemistry 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA. E-mail: tswager@mit.edu Supplementary Material (ESI) for Journal of Materials Chemistry This journal is (c) The Royal Society of Chemistry 2010

#### **Optical micrographs.**



**Figure S1.** Optical micrographs with different magnification of a solution of **P1** in MLC-6884 (10 wt% **P1**) taken under crossed polarizers after slow cooling of the sample from the isotropic phase to 25 °C.

#### UV/vis absorption spectra.



**Figure S2.** Absorption spectra of polymer **P1** dissolved in MLC-6884 (1 wt% polymer) and sandwiched between the glass slides of a test cell equipped with parallel rubbed polyimide layers for planar director alignment. The shown spectra were obtained before (red: nonpolarized light, green: light polarization parallel to the LC director, blue: light polarization perpendicular to the LC director) and after FFT filtering of the respective spectra with Origin 7 (black lines).



**Figure S3.** Nonpolarized temperature-dependent UV-vis absorption spectra of polymer **P1** dissolved in MLC-6884 (1 wt% polymer) and sandwiched between the glass slides of a test cell equipped with parallel rubbed polyimide layers for planar director alignment. The arrows indicate spectral changes with increasing temperature from 25 to 95 °C.

#### DSC thermogram.



**Figure S4.** DSC thermograms of solutions of **P1** in MLC-6884 containing 0 (black), 1 (red), 5 (green), and 10 wt% (blue) **P1**. The heating/cooling rate was 10 K min–1.

## <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra.



Figure S5. <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of 2 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S6.** <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of racemic triptycene quinone  $(\pm)$ -**3** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S7. <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of racemic dibromotriptycene (±)-4 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S8. <sup>1</sup>H (top) and <sup>13</sup>C (bottom) NMR spectra of racemic triptycene monomer (±)-5 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S9. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polymer P1 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

### Gel permeation chromatography



Figure S10. Gel permeation chromatogram of polymer P1 (eluent: THF; detection wavelength: 254 nm).